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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

13 JUL 1976

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Dr. Leo Cherne
Chairman, President's Foreign
Intelligence Advisory Board
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Leo:

The guidance set forth in your 8 June letter concerning the experiment in competitive analysis for this year's NIE on Soviet strategic forces seems straightforward and appropriate. We are moving as quickly as possible to get the effort fully underway. Let me fill you in on progress so far.

I have designated John Paisley, formerly Deputy Director of CIA's Office of Strategic Research, to act as community coordinator and manager for this experiment. He will provide a central focus and support point for the "B" teams but will not intervene in the substance of their analysis. He will stay in close touch with Commander Olmer on important developments and decisions as the exercise develops. The three topics selected for investigation by the "B" teams are Soviet ICBM accuracy, Soviet low altitude air defense capabilities, and Soviet strategic policy and objectives. The selection was coordinated with Dr. Roger Molander of the NSC Staff and with Bob Galvin's NIE Evaluation Committee through Commander Olmer.

Mr. Paisley has received Mr. Galvin's Committee's suggestions for "B" team participants and team leaders and is now in the process of setting up the teams and their tasks. I am advised that the composition of the "B" teams will conform closely to the Board members suggestions. As things stand now it appears that Dr. Roland Herbst will be team leader

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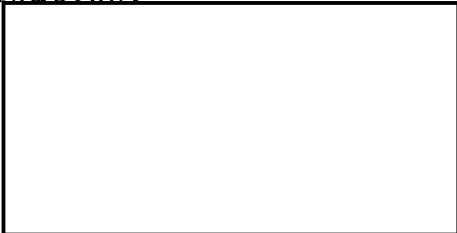
for ICBM accuracy and Dr. Charles Lerch for low altitude air defense. I am seeking agreement of the Secretary of State for Ambassador Seymour Weiss to serve as team leader on Soviet strategic policy. The individual teams will be filled out in consultation with the team leaders. Mr. Paisley will advise Commander Olmer in more detail within the next few days.

Sincerely,

/s/ George Bush

George Bush

Distribution:



JPaisley:  (8 July 1976)

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